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IN THE CLAIMS

Amended claims follow:

1. (currently amended): A system for distributing portable computer virus definition records with binary file conversion, comprising:
 - a structured virus database storing one or more virus definition records, each virus definition record comprising:
 - an identifier uniquely identifying a computer virus;
 - at least one virus name associated with the computer virus;
 - a virus definition sentence comprising object code providing operations to detect the identified computer virus within a computer system; and
 - a virus removal sentence comprising object code providing operations to clean the identified computer virus from the computer system;
 - a client database engine storing at least one updated virus definition record into the structured virus database indexed by the identifier and the at least one virus name for each virus definition record;
 - a converter converting the virus definition records stored in the structured virus database into a virus data file comprising virus definition sets, each virus definition set comprising:
 - binary data encoding instructions to detect the computer virus within a computer system, wherein the instructions comprise the object code to detect the identified computer virus;
 - binary data encoding instructions to clean the computer virus from the computer system, wherein the instructions comprise the object code to clean the identified computer virus; and
 - names associated with the computer virus;
 - a client anti-virus language decompiler converting each virus definition set in the virus data file into a virus definition record; and

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a server database engine comparing subsequently modified versions of the structured virus database to form a delta set of virus definition records, wherein the client database engine stores the delta virus definition records set into the structured virus database;

wherein the server database engine builds the virus definition records into the structured virus database by generating the identifier for each virus definition record and populating each virus definition record with the virus definition sentence and the virus removal sentence for the computer virus;

wherein at least one of the database engines accesses the virus definition records in the structured virus database to perform at least one of adding, removing, and replacing a virus definition record.

2. (cancelled)

3. (canceled)

4. (cancelled)

5. (previously presented): A system according to Claim 1, further comprising:

a server anti-virus language decompiler converting each virus definition set in the virus data file into a virus definition record.

6. (cancelled)

7. (original): A system according to Claim 1, further comprising:
a compression module compressing the structured virus database prior to transfer; and

a decompression module decompressing the structured virus database subsequent to transfer.

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8. (original): A system according to Claim 1, further comprising:
an encryption module encrypting the structured virus database prior to
transfer; and
a decryption module decrypting the structured virus database subsequent
to transfer.

9. (original): A system according to Claim 1, wherein the structured
virus database is a relational database.

10. (currently amended): A method for distributing portable computer
virus definition records with binary file conversion, comprising:
storing one or more virus definition records into a structured virus
database, each virus definition record comprising:
an identifier uniquely identifying a computer virus;
at least one virus name associated with the computer virus;
a virus definition sentence comprising object code providing
operations to detect the identified computer virus within a computer system; and
a virus removal sentence comprising object code providing
operations to clean the identified computer virus from the computer system;
storing at least one updated virus definition record into the structured virus
database indexed by the identifier and the at least one virus name for each virus
definition record;
converting the virus definition records stored in the structured virus
database into a virus data file comprising virus definition sets, each virus
definition set comprising:
binary data encoding instructions to detect the computer virus
within a computer system, wherein the instructions comprise the object code to
detect the identified computer virus;

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binary data encoding instructions to clean the computer virus from the computer system, wherein the instructions comprise the object code to clean the identified computer virus; and

names associated with the computer virus;

comparing subsequently modified versions of the structured virus database to form a delta set of virus definition records; and

storing the delta virus definition records set into the structured virus database;

wherein a client anti-virus language decompiler converts each virus definition set in the virus data file into a virus definition record;

wherein a server database engine builds the virus definition records into the structured virus database by generating the identifier for each virus definition record and populating each virus definition record with the virus definition sentence and the virus removal sentence for the computer virus;

wherein the server database engine accesses the virus definition records in the structured virus database to perform at least one of adding, removing, and replacing a virus definition record.

11. (cancelled)

12. (canceled)

13. (cancelled)

14. (cancelled)

15. (cancelled)

16. (original); A method according to Claim 10, further comprising:
compressing the structured virus database prior to transfer; and

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decompressing the structured virus database subsequent to transfer.

17. (original): A method according to Claim 10, further comprising:
encrypting the structured virus database prior to transfer; and
decrypting the structured virus database subsequent to transfer.

18. (original): A method according to Claim 10, wherein the structured virus database is a relational database.

19. (original): A computer-readable storage medium holding code for performing the method of Claim 10.

20. (currently amended): A method for updating a binary computer virus data file from virus definition records stored in a structured virus database, comprising:

means for storing virus definition records into a structured virus database, each virus definition record comprising an identifier, at least one virus name, a virus definition sentence defining operations to detect the identified computer virus, and a virus removal sentence defining operations to clean off the identified computer virus;

means for comparing subsequently modified versions of the structured virus database to form a delta set of virus definition records;

means for storing the delta virus definition records set into the structured virus database;

means for converting the virus definition records stored in the structured virus database into a virus data file comprising virus definition sets, each virus definition set comprising binary instructions wherein the binary instructions comprise the object code to detect the computer virus, binary instructions wherein the binary instructions comprise the object code to clean off the computer virus, and names associated with the computer virus;

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means for comparing subsequently modified versions of the structured virus database to form a delta set of virus definition records;

means for storing the delta virus definition records set into the structured virus database; and

means for building the virus definition records into the structured virus database by generating the identifier for each virus definition record and populating each virus definition record with the virus definition sentence and the virus removal sentence for the computer virus;

means for converting each virus definition set in the virus data file into a virus definition record; and

means for accessing the virus definition records in the structured virus database to perform at least one of adding, removing, and replacing a virus definition record.